

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A virtual private communications network (VPCN) comprising:
 - a communications server;
 - a plurality of digital telephones connected to said communications server in a private telephone network;
 - at least one communications trunk connecting said communications server to a public telephone network;
 - a remotely connected device communicating with said communications server;
 - and
 - a remote telephone directly connected to said public telephone network and located in the vicinity of said remotely connected device, telephonic communications being provided to and from said remote telephone through said public telephone network in cooperation with said communications server and controlled by said remotely connected device, said remotely connected device and said remote telephone being a virtual digital telephone acting as a locally connected digital telephone in said private telephone network with access to digital telephone features, wherein said remotely connected device has access to all communications server features.
2. (canceled)
3. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 1 wherein said remotely connected device is a web enabled device connected over the Internet, said VPCN further comprising:
 - a web server connected to said communications server and the Internet.

4. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 3 wherein said web enabled device is a personal computer (PC) and selects a corresponding remote telephone.

5. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 4 wherein said PC includes a modem connecting said PC to the Internet over a second public network, different than said public telephone network.

6. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 1 wherein said communications server is a PBX server providing said digital telephone features, said digital telephone features comprising:

- a call connection processing feature;
- a call status feature;
- a partner identification feature;
- a call duration feature;
- an incoming call indication feature;
- a call hold/resume feature;
- a consultation feature;
- a number redial feature;
- a call forwarding feature;
- speed dialing keys; and
- a local address book.

7. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 1 wherein said remote telephone is a wireless access protocol (WAP) device connected over the Internet.

8. (currently amended) A VPCN as in Claim 7 wherein said WAP is a personal digital assistant (PDA) with a wireless connection to the Internet, separate from said remotely connected device.

9. (currently amended) A virtual private communications network (VPCN) comprising:
- a PBX server;
 - a web server connected to said PBX server and the Internet;
 - a plurality of digital telephones connected to said PBX server in a private telephone network;
 - at least one communications trunk connecting said PBX server to a public telephone network;
 - a plurality of remotely connected web enabled devices communicating with said PBX server, said remotely connected devices each acting as a locally connected digital telephone in said private telephone network with access to digital telephone features;
 - and
 - a remote telephone directly connected to said public telephone network and located in the vicinity of each of said remotely connected web enabled devices, telephonic communications being provided to said digital telephones from remote telephones through said public telephone network in cooperation with said PBX server and simultaneously controlled by said remotely connected web enabled devices, wherein said remotely connected web enabled devices and corresponding said remote telephones act as a locally connected digital telephones in said private telephone network with access to all PBX features.

10. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 9 wherein at least one web enabled device is a personal computer (PC) and selects a corresponding remote telephone.

11. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 10 wherein at least one PC includes a modem connecting to the Internet, said at least one PC being connected to the web server over the Internet.

12. (canceled)

13. (currently amended) A VPCN as in Claim 9 wherein at least one remote telephone is a wireless access protocol (WAP) device connected over the Internet, separate from said remotely connected web enabled devices.

14. (original) A VPCN as in Claim 13 wherein said WAP is a personal digital assistant (PDA) with a wireless connection to the Internet.

15. (currently amended) A method for communicating with a private communications network, said method comprising the steps of:

- a) connecting a remotely located web enabled device to a communications server in a private telephone network;
- b) providing said remotely located web enabled device with access to private network telephony features from said communications server; and
- c) initiating calls at the communications server from and to a remote telephone in the vicinity of said remotely located web enabled device, said calls being through a [[said]] public telephone network directly connected to said remote telephone, said remotely located web enabled device initiating and controlling said calls, wherein providing said remotely located web enabled device with access provides said remotely located web enabled device with access to all communications server features.

16. (previously presented) A method as in Claim 15 wherein the step (a) of connecting the remotely located web enabled device comprises the steps of:

- i) calling an Internet service provider;
- ii) negotiating a modem connection with said Internet service provider; and
- iii) connecting to a web server connected to said communications server, calls to said remote telephone being controlled by said web enabled device in real time.

17 – 19 (canceled)

20. (currently amended) A virtual private communications network (VPCN) comprising:
a communications server in a private network;

at least one communications trunk connecting said communications server to a public telephone network;

a remotely connected device communicating with said communications server, said remotely connected device acting as a locally connected digital telephone in said private telephone network with access to digital telephone features; and

a remote telephone directly connected to said public telephone network and located in the vicinity of said remotely connected device, telephonic communications being provided to and from said remote telephone through said public telephone network in cooperation with said communications server and controlled by said remotely connected device, wherein said remotely connected device and said remote telephone act together as a locally connected digital telephone in said private telephone network with access to all communications server features.

21. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 20, said communications server features comprising:

- a call connection processing feature;
- a call status feature;
- a partner identification feature;
- a call duration feature;
- an incoming call indication feature;
- a call hold/resume feature;
- a consultation feature;
- a number redial feature;
- a call forwarding feature;
- speed dialing keys; and
- a local address book.

22. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 9, said PBX features comprising:

- a call connection processing feature;
- a call status feature;
- a partner identification feature;

- a call duration feature;
- an incoming call indication feature;
- a call hold/resume feature;
- a consultation feature;
- a number redial feature;
- a call forwarding feature;
- speed dialing keys; and
- a local address book.

23. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 1 wherein said remotely connected device is one of a plurality of remotely connected devices and said remote telephone is one of a plurality of remote telephones comprising an analog telephone connected to a land line to said public telephone network, a cell phone connected to a cellular network and a wireless access protocol (WAP) connected to a wireless network.

24. ((previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 9 wherein said remote telephones comprise an analog telephone connected to a land line to said public telephone network, a cell phone connected to a cellular network and a wireless access protocol (WAP) connected to a wireless network.

25. (previously presented) A VPCN as in Claim 20 wherein said remotely connected device is one of a plurality of remotely connected devices and said remote telephone is one of a plurality of remote telephones comprising an analog telephone connected to a land line to said public telephone network, a cell phone connected to a cellular network and a wireless access protocol (WAP) connected to a wireless network.